Claims

1. Particles of the polymer PVP-VA-60 or the polymer Eudragit-E100-PO, characterized in that said particles are shaped as platelets.

2. Particles of the polymer PVP-VA-60 according to claim 1 wherein the specific surface area is larger than 0.350 m^2/g.

3. Particles of the polymer Eudragit-E100-PO according to claim 1 wherein less than 40% (w/w) is smaller than 100 μ.

4. Particles comprising the polymer PVP-VA-60 or the polymer Eudragit-E100-PO, and an active ingredient, characterized in that said particles are shaped as platelets.

5. Particles according to claim 4 wherein the active ingredient is itraconazole.

6. Particles according to claim 5 wherein the weight by weight ratio of itraconazole to polymer ranges from about 10/90 to about 40/60.

7. A pharmaceutical dosage form comprising a therapeutically effective amount of particles as defined in claims 4 to 6.

8. A process of preparing a pharmaceutical dosage form as defined in claim 7 comprising the steps of intimately mixing particles as defined in claims 4 to 6 with pharmaceutically acceptable excipients and making from the thus obtained mixture a pharmaceutical dosage form comprising a therapeutically effective amount of particles.

9. A process of preparing particles as defined in claim 1 or claim 4 comprising the steps of

- feeding the polymer, or a mixture of the polymer and the active ingredient, into a melt extruder,

- transporting the polymer, or a mixture of the polymer and the active ingredient, through the barrel of the melt extruder by means of a screw modified with transport elements and with kneading elements,
- injecting pressurized gas into the barrel of the melt extruder through a port located in the barrel,
- mixing the polymer, or a mixture of the polymer and the active ingredient, and the pressurized gas under subcritical or supercritical conditions
- expanding the polymer, or a mixture of the polymer and the active ingredient, after the die plate, and
- milling the extrudate,

characterized by creating a melt seal before the site of the pressurized gas injection by placing a reversing transport element in the screw configuration at said site.